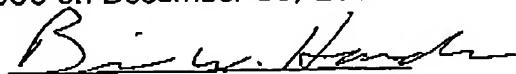


DEC 30 2004

Certification under 37 CFR 1.8b

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to Fax No. (703)872-9306 on December 30, 2004.

Brian W. Hameder  
Name

  
Signature

DOCKET: CU-2845

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|            |   |                                 |
|------------|---|---------------------------------|
| APPLICANT: | Atsushi Hayakawa et al  | )                               |
| SERIAL NO: | 10/074,359  | ) Group Art Unit: 1744          |
| FILED:     | February 12, 2002   | ) Examiner: Elizabeth L. McKane |
| TITLE:     | METHOD OF STERILIZATION FOR CONTAINER, APPARATUS USING THEREFOR, AND HEAT TREATMENT FOR CONTAINER |                                 |

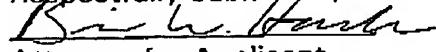
THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR THREE MONTH EXTENSION

Sir:

With reference to the Office Action dated July 12, 2004, Applicant respectfully requests a three-month extension of the response term, from the present term of October 1, 2004, up to a new term of January 1, 2005. The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 12-0400 in the amount of \$1020 to cover the fee for this three-month extension, or any required fees in excess of the amount submitted, or credit any overpayment.

December 30, 2004  
Date

Respectfully submitted,  
  
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